

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application in light of the amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Status of the Claims

Claims 1-15 are pending. Claims 1, 8 and 9 have been amended. Claims 11-15 have been added, and recite the subject matter of claims 3-7 respectively. No new matter has been added.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants appreciatively acknowledge the Examiner's allowance of claim 10, and the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 2-8. Applicants submit that amended claim 8, and added claims 11-15 depend from allowed claim 10. Claims 8 and 11-15 recite subject matter identified as allowable by the Examiner. Thus, Applicants submit, claims 8 and 11-15 are in condition for allowance.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. 103

Claims 1 and 9 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over International Application No. WO 00/38475 to Marqvardsen et al. (“Marqvardsen”) in view of International Application No. WO 02/50944 to Mähringer.

Claims 1 and 9 have been amended to recite the subject matter of claim 8. The Examiner has indicated that claim 8 recites allowable subject matter. Therefore, Applicants submit that claims 1 and 9 are patentable over the combination of Marqvardsen and Mähringer.

Claims 2-7 depend from claim 1. Thus, applicants submit claims 2-7 are in condition for allowance.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

